NOV 0 3 1999 (22)

Practitioner's Docket No. SST/816

PATENT

(FA U3635/81

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Commins, Leek, Linn, Gregg, Colonias/Simpson Strong-Tie Co., Inc.

Application No.: 0 8 / 975,940

Group No.: 3635

Filed: November 11, 1997

Examiner: Kent, C.

For: BUILDING WALL FOR RESISTING LATERAL FORCES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

"Express Mail" label number <u>EL440266118US</u>

Date of Deposit <u>November 3, 1999</u>

I hereby state that the following attached paper or fee

Information Disclosure Statement (6 p.)

Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement (3 p.)
Reference (12 p.)

Reference (12 p.) Ck. No. 5136 for \$240.00
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is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Charles R. Cypher

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(Express Mail Certificate [8-3])







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TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))

NOTE: An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed . . . before the mailing date of either (1) a final action under § 1.113 or (2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first, provided the statement is accompanied by either a statement as specified in paragraph (e) of section 1.97 or the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

NOTE: "If a final action or notice of allowance is mailed in an application and later withdrawn, the application will be considered as not having had a final action or notice of allowance mailed for purposes of considering an information disclosure statement." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "If information submitted during the period set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) with a certification is used in a new ground of rejection on unamended claims, the next Office action will not be made final since in this situation it is clear that applicant has submitted the information to the office promptly after it has become known and the information is being submitted prior to a final determination on patentability by the Office. However, the information submitted with a certification can be used in a new ground of rejection and the next Office action made final, [i]f the new ground of rejection was necessitated by amendment of the application by applicant. Where the information is submitted during this period with a fee, the examiner may use the information submitted, e.g., printed publication or evidence of public use, and make the next Office action final whether or not the claims have been amended, provided that no other new ground of rejection which was not necessitated by amendment to the claims is introduced by the examiner. See MPEP 706.07(a). If a new ground of rejection is introduced that is neither necessitated by an amendment to the claims nor based on the information submitted with the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), the Office action shall not be made final." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

MAILING

deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class:

EXPT mail, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

FACSIMILE

☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office.

Signature

Date: 1/2.3,1999

Charles R. Cypher (type or print name of person certifying)

(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement before Mailing Date of Either a Final Action Or Notice of Allowance [6-4]—page 1 of 3)

WARNING: "A petition for suspension of action to allow applicant time to submit an information disclosure statement will be denied as failing to present good and sufficient reasons, since 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 provides adequate recourse for the timely submission of prior art for consideration by the examiner." Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63).

TIME OF TRANSMITTAL OF ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

- 1. The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this national application or the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application or after the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurred last but *before* the mailing date of either:
 - (1) a final action under § 1.113 or

(2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311,
whichever occurs first.
STATEMENT OR FEE
2. Accompanying this transmittal is
(check either A or B below)
A. a statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).
OR
B. the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(c). (\$240.00).
FEE PAYMENT
(complete this item, if applicable)
3. Applicant elects the option to pay the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(c) (\$240.00).
Fee due \$ _240_00
METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FEE
4.
Attached is a check in the amount of \$ 240.00 Check No. 5136
☐ Charge Account No in the amount of \$
A duplicate of this request is attached.
If any additional fees are due, please charge Account $03-4075$

(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement before Mailing Date of Either a Final Action Or Notice of Allowance [6-4]—page 2 of 3)

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Reg. No. 41,694

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(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement before Mailing Date of Either a Final Action Or Notice of Allowance [6-4]—page 3 of 3)

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 1 of 6

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NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant:

- (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application;
- (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; or
- (3) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last." 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).
- NOTE: "Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a).

"Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) each inventor named in the application;
- (2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c).

NOTE: The "duty as described in § 1.56 will be met so long as the information in question was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98 before issuance of the patent." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13 -25 at 17.

WARNING: "No information disclosure statement may be filed in a provisional application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(b).

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

(check sections forming a part of this statement: discard unused sections and number pages consecutively)

1.	X	Preliminary Statements			
2.		FORMS PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly FORM PTO-1449)			
3.	X	Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications			
4.		Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cite and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted			
5.		Cumulative Patents or Publications			
6.		Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement			
7.		Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items			
		7A. EPO Search Report			
		7B. English Language Version of EPO Search Report			
8.		Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents			
9.		Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)			
10.	X	Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement			

(complete the following, if appropriate)

Sections

, respectively, have been continued on ADDED PAGE(S).

NOTE: "Once the minimum requirements are met, the examiner has an obligation to consider the information." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 37).

(Information Disclosure Statement [8-1]—page 2 of 6

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Section 1. Preliminary statements

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2) requires that any information disclosure statement filed under § 1.97 shall include: "A legible copy of: (1) Each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) Each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) All other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, except that no copy of a U.S. patent application need be included . . . "

NOTE: The wording in § 1.98(a)(2)(iii) makes it clear that the requirement to submit a copy of each item of information listed in an information disclosure statement does not apply to the citation of a U.S. patent application. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 14.

Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449), and Section accompany this information statement.

(complete the following, if applicable)

	Exception(s) to above:		
	Items in prior application, from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application, as identified in Section 4.		
	☐ Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.		
	Pending U.S. Patent Applications.		

Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

rne person n	naking this statement is	
	(check eac	h applicable item)
(a) 🗆	the inventor(s) who signs	below
		SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR
· (b) [(type name of inventor who is signing)
(b) L	an individual associated wire cution of this application (
		SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR
(c) 🛣	the practitioner who signs the information:	(type name of inventor who is signing) below on the basis of
		h applicable item)
	supplied by the ir	nventor(s).
		lividual associated with the filing and prosecution 1. (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c))
	in the practitioner	's file.
		Charles a. Cyhn
		SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER
Reg. No.: 41	,694	<u>Charles R. Cypher</u>
Tel. No.: (510)	832-4111	(type or print name of practitioner)
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